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Letters to the Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain

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Letters to the Editor



Send letters to <strauchk@cofc.edu>, phone or fax 803-723-3536, or snail mail: **Against the Grain**, 171 Moultrie Street, Citadel Station, Charleston, SC 29409. You can also send a letter to the editor from the **ATG Homepage** at <<http://www.against-the-grain.com>>. So now you don't have any excuses to put it off!

Hello Editor:

I finally got to see a copy of **Against the Grain**, and I really like it. The thing is, I think the copy I have was sent to me in error. But now that I've seen **ATG** (I think it was **Anna Belle Leiserson** who first told me about it) I want to keep seeing it.

Yours,

Peter Beck

(Director of Publications,
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Dear Editor:

Greetings and good health to you.

I am sending a copy of this message [originally sent to Lyman Newlin] to **Against the Grain**. In **ATG** vol. 8 no. 2 Lyman reminisced about Emily Schlossberger's reasoning regarding a pet peeve of Lyman's that I share: the comparatively high cost ratio of hard back to paper back u.p. books. Although her argument may have been appropriate at the time, I contend that a different spin on the disproportionate assignment of costs between u.p. hard back and soft cover books is currently in play. The contemporary answer might have more to do with keeping the soft cover price at a level that encourages commercial bookstore sales. Regardless of the stated versus the unspoken reason, the truth has not changed — many

publishers rely on academia to purchase the artificially higher priced hardback book and unwittingly subsidize the artificially lower priced softcover book sold to the public. Do any u.p. publishers care about the price of books sold to students? Along with the rest of the publishing industry, their actions speak louder than their words. Computer software publishers offer specially reduced prices to students. When did you last (or first) hear of a print publisher establishing special student pricing? I rest my case and thank you for wading through my thoughts regarding your pet peeve.

Jay Askuvich

(Midwest Library Service)
<askuvich@midwestls.com>



Dear Editor:

I read with amusement the info in the June 1996 issue of **ATG** the bit about Jane Austen's "ancestors." Presumably, if they were Jane's ancestors, they would have pre-deceased her and therefore could care less about the fact that the immortal Jane's works were not protected by copyright. The "descendants" of Jane's siblings, on the other hand, have every right to be concerned.

Dean James

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Dear Editor:

Oh dear. Imagine my surprise to learn that the ANCESTORS of Jane Austen's brothers wanted a slice of the royalties pie.(p. 12-14). Shame on you!

Marybeth Lavrakas

(UNC Press)
<lavrakas@email.unc.edu>

*Ed note: Hey y'all what can I say? The hands are willing, but the brain is weak? Anyway, at least you are reading **ATG** and are keeping me on my "edit-toes". Thanks. — KS*

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